

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of covering a stent comprising the steps of:
providing pericardium tissue; providing an expandable stent with a longitudinal axis, the stent being expandable from a first diameter to a second diameter;
dissolving the pericardium tissue into fiber groups;
interweaving the fiber groups into a cylindrical covering so that in the first diameter, the interwoven fiber groups are oriented at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the stent, the angle being less than approximately 45 degrees when in the first diameter;
affixing the covering to the stent while the stent is in its first diameter.
2. A method of making an intraluminal stent comprising the steps of:
providing a stent with a first diameter and a second diameter;
providing a strip of pericardium with lateral edges;
helically winding the pericardium around the stent while the stent is in its first diameter so that the lateral edges of adjacent windings overlap.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of folding the pericardium to form locking edges.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the pericardium tissue is selected from the group consisting of: bovine pericardium, ovine pericardium, and porcine pericardium.

5. An intraluminal stent, comprising:

a tubular support member, the member being expandable from a first diameter to a second diameter;

an expandable covering applied over the tubular support member, the expandable covering being formed by a strip of pericardium helically wound around the tubular support member, the strip having lateral edges which overlap in the first diameter.

6. The intraluminal stent according to claim 5, wherein the strip of pericardium has locking edges.

DC01 469395 v 1